

# Indiana House of Representatives

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## News and Information

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **HOUSE PASSES BROWN BILL TO PROTECT MEDICAID PROVIDERS**

INDIANAPOLIS -- Today, the Indiana General Assembly passed House Bill 1240, legislation coauthored by State Rep. Charlie Brown (D-Gary) that aims to protect Medicaid providers that have been overpaid from having to pay interest to the state.

The bill states that a Medicaid provider will not be required to pay interest if the overpayment was a result of a mistake committed by the Office of the Secretary of Family and Social Services or one of the office's contractors.

House Bill 1240 also allows the Secretary of Family and Social Services to reduce, in certain situations, the amount of interest due on an overpayment.

"Medicaid providers are not getting reimbursed that much as it is," said Brown. "That is why House Bill 1240 is so necessary. This bill will eliminate unfair, untimely interest payments that penalize Medicaid providers for an infraction that was not their fault."

"Ensuring that Medicaid providers are not overcharged will allow for the money to be spent on what is most important: providing health care for low-income Hoosiers," said Brown.

Approximately 800,000 Hoosiers benefit from Medicaid services, including 450,000 children and pregnant women.